

News Release

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## Phoenix VA Health Care System Removes Annual Income Reporting Requirement Eliminates Burden on Veterans, Improves Customer Service

PHOENIX-The Phoenix VA Health Care System is eliminating the annual requirement for most Veterans enrolled in PVAHCS's health care system to report income information beginning in March 31, 2014. Instead, PVAHCS will automatically match income information obtained from the Internal Revenue Service and Social Security Administration.

"The removal of the annual income reporting requirement reduces red tape for Veterans and makes Veterans interactions with PVAHCS simpler and easier," said Medical Center Director Sharon Helman. "This change enables our health care system to deliver personalized, proactive, patient driven health care and improve our customer service."

Some Veterans applying for enrollment for the first time are still required to submit income information. There is no change in long-standing policy to provide nocost care to indigent Veterans, Veterans with catastrophic medical conditions, Veterans with a disability rating of 50 percent or higher, or for conditions that are officially rated as "service-connected."

PVAHCS encourages Veterans to continue to use the health benefits renewal form to report changes in their personal information, such as address, phone numbers, dependents, next of kin, income and health insurance.

For more information, visit <a href="www.va.gov/healthbenefits/cost">www.va.gov/healthbenefits/cost</a> or call VA toll-free at 1-877-222-VETS (8387).